

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
22 January 2004 (22.01.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/008540 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H01L 27/146, 31/105**

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(21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2003/007593

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(22) International Filing Date: 14 July 2003 (14.07.2003)

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(25) Filing Language: English

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(26) Publication Language: English

Published:

— with international search report

(30) Priority Data:
102 32 019.5 16 July 2002 (16.07.2002) DE

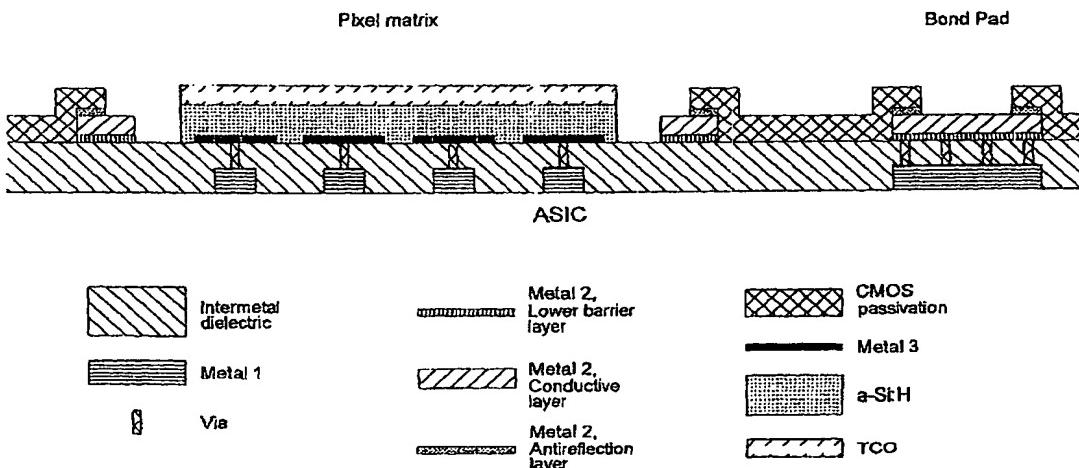
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: TFA IMAGE SENSOR WITH STABILITY-OPTIMIZED PHOTODIODE



(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to a TFA image sensor with stability-optimized photodiode for converting electromagnetic radiation into an intensity-dependent photocurrent with an intermetal dielectric, on which, in the region of the pixel matrix, a lower barrier layer (metal 2) is situated and a conductive layer (metal 2) is situated on said barrier layer, and vias being provided for the contact connection to the ASIC, said vias in metal contacts on the ASIC. The invention is based on the object of providing a TFA image sensor having improved electrical properties. This is achieved in that an intrinsic absorption layer (i) is provided between the TCO layer and the barrier layer (metal 2) with a layer thickness of between 300 nm and 600 nm. Before the application of the photodiodes, the topmost, comparatively thick metal layer of the ASIC is removed and replaced by a matrix of thin metal electrodes which form the back electrodes of the photodiodes, said matrix being patterned in the pixel raster.



- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP 03/07593

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 H01L27/146 H01L31/105

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H01L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 050 907 A (AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES INC) 8 November 2000 (2000-11-08) paragraph '0055!; figure 2 ---	1-19
X	WO 02 50921 A (SEIBEL KONSTANTIN ;SILICON VISION AG (DE); RIEVE PETER (DE); WALDE) 27 June 2002 (2002-06-27) page 7, line 25; claims 1-15; figure 2 ---	1-19
A	EP 1 045 450 A (AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES INC) 18 October 2000 (2000-10-18) the whole document ---	1
A	EP 0 428 050 A (FUJITSU LTD) 22 May 1991 (1991-05-22) column 5, line 45 -column 6, line 14 ---	-/-

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the International search

Date of mailing of the International search report

7 November 2003

14/11/2003

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP 03/07593

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 99 00848 A (RIEVE PETER ;BOEHM MARKUS (DE)) 7 January 1999 (1999-01-07) abstract	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application no.
PCT/EP 03/07593

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